

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TORONT 01129 302226Z

67

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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FM AMCONSUL TORONTO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3915

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: SOPN, EGEN, CA

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION TO REPORT BY THE CANADAIN-AMERICAN COMMITTEE

REF: OTTAWA 3060; TORONTO 1108

THE JACK MCARTHUR COLUMN ON FINANCIAL PAGE OF THE 30 JULY NATIONALISTIC

TORONTO STAR SAYS THAT ON READING THE COMMITTEE'S STATEMENT THAT IT WAS ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE CANADAIN GOVERNMENT TO APPEAR TO BE GIVING UP SOMETHING TO THE U.S. EVEN IN RETURN FOR GREATER BENEFITS HE THOUGHT THAT THAT SOUNDED "LIKE A CRAZY WAY FOR CANADIANS TO BE THINKING. BUT IF TRUE, IT WOULD HELP EXPLAIN CERTAIN OTHER THINGS WHICH HAD SEEMED A WASTE OF CANADAIN TIME AND ENERGY".

MCARTHUR SAYS THAT HE IS DUBIOUS THAT THE ONLY HANDFUL OF CANADAINS WHO ARE ANTI-AMERICAN COULD BE INFLUENTIAL ON GOVERNMENT POLICY BUT THEN BEGINS CATALOGUING SEVERAL RECENT ACTIONS OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WHICH SEEM TO HAVE NO OTHER EXPLANATION: THE RECENT HARD WON CONTRACTURAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE EUROPEAN COMMON MARKET FOR WHICH THERE IS NO RATIONAL BASIS (IT SEEMS TO GARNER CANADA NOTHING) EXCEPT THAT "IT CAN BE USED TO SHOW THOSE CANADIANS WHO DISLIKE THE U.S. THAT - BY HEAVENS YES - OTTAWA ISN'T ALWAYS IN BED WITH WASHINGTON," THE NEW 10 YEAR TRADE AGREEMENT WITH THE SOVIET UNION AND THE REFUSAL

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PAGE 02 TORONT 01129 302226Z

TO ADMIT ATHLETES FROM THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA MAY BOTH HAVE A

SIMILAR RATIONALE - TO IRK THE U.S. AND PROVE CANADA'S INDEPENDENCE
TO HER ANTI-AMERICAN ELEMENT.

HE CONCLUDES:"THE THEORY OF THE CANADIAN-AMERICAN COMMITTEE IS
UNPROVEN. BUT THERE'S ENOUGH CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE TO JUSTIFY
VIGILANCE. OUR BEST INTERESTS - AND OUR LIVING STANDARDS - WILL
SUFFER IF WE BASE POLICY UPON BLIND PREJUDICE."
DIGGINS

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